

ERCOT Energy Emergency Alert Communications

Emergency Levels*	Trigger	Grid Operators' Actions	Automated Emergency Notifications	Follow-up Communications from External Affairs	Media/Public Notifications
Normal Conditions	Reserves >3,000 MW	Normal operations			
Control Room Operating Condition Notice (OCN)	Projected need for additional resources	Issue "OCN" to utilities — informational only	Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUC) and NERC regional entity (Texas Reliability Entity (Texas RE)) notified via daily emails		
Conservation Alert	Used rarely, as needed, to encourage conservation when tight operating reserves are expected to be a reliability concern	Monitor need for additional generation and voluntary demand response resources	None – conservation messages entered and deployed manually in non-emergency situations	Coordinate public notification with PUC staff; notify media and market participants' media contacts/PIOs of change in conditions	Spotlight on home page of ercot.com and mobile app; social media posts; app messages and/or news release
Control Room Advisory	Reserves <3,000 MW	Issue "Advisory" to utilities — informational only	PUC and Texas RE notified via daily emails; operations notices at control room discretion		
Control Room Watch	Reserves <2,500 MW	Use quick-start capacity and release non-spinning reserves (available within 30 minutes)	Automated Emergency Notification System phone call and email to PUC staff, the Independent Market Monitor (IMM), Texas RE and FERC; operations notice at control room discretion	If potential emergency situation, additional information sent to SOC, PUC, OPUC, RRC, TCEQ, ERCOT Board, Government/Legislature, IMM, Texas RE, FERC and market participants' media contacts/PIOs	Consider conservation alert to support grid reliability
Energy Emergency Level 1 POWER WATCH - Conservation Needed	Reserves <2,300 MW and not expected to be recovered within 30 minutes	Use additional capacity available from other grids (via DC Ties; 500 MW on average) and commit all available units; implement weather-sensitive and 30-minute Emergency Response Service (ERS)** resources and TDSP Load Management programs if needed. Deploy Responsive Reserves if PRC <2000.	Above plus State Operations Center (SOC) (notifies city, county officials & law enforcement), Office of Public Utility Counsel (OPUC), Government/Legislature staff and ERCOT Board; media contacts for utilities	If needed, notify grid emergency lists with additional information	Emergency Alerts list***, Twitter and Facebook, mobile app alerts; spotlight on ercot.com and mobile app; news release if appropriate
Energy Emergency Level 2 POWER WARNING A- Conservation Critical	Frequency cannot be maintained above 59.91 Hz or Physical Responsive Capability (PRC) <1,750 MW and not expected to be recovered within 30 minutes	Deploy demand response resources: Load Resources under contract (typically ~1,150 MW) and/or remaining ERS** (currently 1,123 MW on peak), in either order. Begin block load transfers of load to other grids if appropriate.	Above, plus major news services	Same as above	Same as above
Energy Emergency Level 3 POWER WARNING B - High Risk of Rotating Outages	Frequency cannot be maintained above 59.91 Hz or PRC cannot be maintained >1,375 MW	Ensure all resources allowed under EEA 2 are deployed	Same as above	Same as above	Same as above
Energy Emergency Level 3 POWER EMERGENCY - Rotating Outages in Progress	Frequency cannot be maintained above 59.91 Hz or PRC <1,000 MW and not expected to be recovered within 30 minutes	Instruct transmission operators to implement rotating outages; areas affected are at the discretion of the utilities	Same as above	Same as above	Emergency Alerts list, Twitter and Facebook, mobile app alerts; spotlight on ercot.com and mobile app; issue news release; activate call center if needed

*Depending on system conditions overall, ERCOT Operations has some discretion regarding emergency levels and specific actions, based on these guidelines.

**Emergency Response Service (ERS) may include 10-minute, 30-minute and Weather-Sensitive Demand Response resources.

***Sign up for Emergency Alerts and News Bulletins email lists at <http://lists.ercot.com>